(c) the specific reasons for not utilizing the amount by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) External Development assistnace received during the last three years was Rs.14,254.31 crores in 2000-01, Rs.17,075.15 crores in 2001-02 and Rs. 15,205.69 crores in 2002-03. Details of the project-wise utilisation of funds is available in the website of Ministry of Finance at www.finmin.nic.in/caaa.

(c) External assistance is largely tied to projects. Therefore, utlisation of the sanctioned assistance for any project is spread over its implementation period. As a result, there would be some unutilised amount at any point of time due to various reasons, which will be used as project implementation progresses.

Duty Exemption on Equipment

34. DR. ALLDI P.RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Media Group has sought duty exemption on a range of equipment for technical upgradation; and

(b) if so, the action taken on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No request from the Indian Media Group for duty exemption for equipment for technical upgradation appears to have been received in the Department of Revenue as per available record.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a).

Institutional Financial Investment in Uttaranchal

†35.SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of institutional financial investment in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether the Ministry of Finance is taking some special steps to increase investment through financial institutions and banks in Uttaranchal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.